Export of agricultural products

†739. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched any special scheme to increase the export of agricultural products;

(b) if so, the details of the products included therein and the incentives given to exporters;

(c) the value of agricultural products exported during the last three years till date and increase in the exports likely to be achieve through the new scheme;

(d) whether export of agricultural products has declined continously during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) In the Foreign Trade Policy 2004–09 Government has launched Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojana with an obejctive to promote export of fruits, vegetables, flowers, minor forest produce, dairy, poultry and their value added products. Exporters of such products are entitled for duty credit scrip at 5% of FOB value of exports for each licensing year commencing from 1st April, 2004. However, dairy, poultry and their value added products qualify for such benefits in respect of exports made on or after 1st of April 2005.

(c) to (e) As per Export Import Data Bank maintained by the Department of Commerce, the total value of exports of agriculture and allied products for the period 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 was to the tune of Rs. 22,848/- crores, Rs. 24,844/- crores and Rs. 27,111/- crores, respectively. These figures reveal that there has been no decline in export of these products in the last three years. Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojana is one of the instruments intended to achieve the obejctive of doubling our percentage share of global merchandise trade within the next five years.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.